

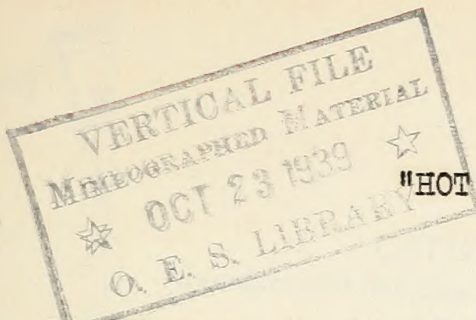
Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



No. 348

August 1, 1939.



"HOT HOUSE" TREATMENT RIDS HOME OF PESKY MOTH

Lighting up the furnace in midsummer may not appeal to the average family. But if they are troubled with clothes moths and can arrange to stay out of a superheated house for about a day, this is a good way to get rid of moths, says _____, _____, _____.
(Name) (Title) (Institution)

Even in summertime there are blankets, on the beds or in the closets, woolen clothing, and unprotected upholstered furniture. The idea that moths will not attack these articles if they are in frequent use is in error. Moths will lay eggs at any time on any suitable feeding-ground for their larvae. They prefer dark, unexposed spots, such as folded blankets or clothing hung in the back of the closet for days at a time, but they are no respectors of garments.

All forms of moths are killed upon exposure for a short time to temperatures of 125° to 130° F. Newly hatched larvae die at 100° F. Where heat penetration is required, as in upholstered furniture, the interior itself, not the air about it, must be raised to 125° to 130° F. The heating system used in winter weather will produce these temperatures on a hot summer day if the house is closed - with no more fire hazard than in any other season, the entomologists say. About 12 hours is required to get the desired temperatures everywhere in the house.

This method also destroys other insect pests such as carpet beetles, bedbugs, and weevils.

###

